GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1410
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003
OMISSION OF INDIA`S NAME
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government had taken note of the fact that the U.S. President in his address to the recent U.N. General Assembly Session (2003) omitted the name of India while recounting the names of countries which were victims of terrorism;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regard;

(c) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken to bring home to the U.S. and other U.N. members the conspicuous omission of India's name; and

(d) the response of the U.S. Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) In his address to the U.N. General Assembly in September 2003, the U.S. President gave some examples of cities that had had terrorist incidents in the recent past and did not specifically describe any country as a victim of terrorism.
(b), (c) and (d) The U.S. Administration has on a number of occasions condemned terrorist incidents in India and acknowledged India as a victim of terrorism. It recognises the nature and source of terrorism in India and has called upon Pakistan to take steps to put a permanent end to cross border terrorism in India. On October 29, 2003, a senior U.S. official specifically described India as a victim of terrorism during a testimony before the U.S. Congress and cited the tragic attack on the Indian Parliament on December 13, 2001, as well as the terrorist bombing in Mumbai in August 2003.